

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 121327

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ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-12 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 DODE-00

L-02 MC-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 AID-05 OMB-01

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DRAFTED BY ARA/CEN:LCKILDAY:RMC

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ARA/CEN/CR:MBOVA

PM/SAS:GSWEANY

ARA/PLC:SQUIGG

DOD/ISA:DENGLE

EUR/RPM - G.HELMAN (SUBS)

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 121327

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS CS

SUBJECT: FMS CASH SALE REQUEST

REF: SAN JOSE 1649

1. WE HAVE REEXAMINED QUESTION OF WHERE AND WHEN GOCR MIGHT TAKE DELIVERY OF CARBINES AND WE NOW THINK IT PREFERABLE TO GO AHEAD WITH SALE AS ORIGINALLY PROVIDED IN DD 1513, I.E., FOR DELIVERY AND ACCEPTANCE AT POE, COSTA RICA. WE ARE PREPARED TO DEFER TO GOCR WISHES IN THIS RESPECT BUT AS BALANCE OF THIS MESSAGE MAKES CLEAR, ANY CHANGE IS LIKELY TO BE TIME-CONSUMING AND COULD ADD SUBSTANTIALLY TO COST OF TRANSACTION TO GOCR.

2. FROM USG POINT OF VIEW, DELIVERY OF CARBINES TO GOCR REPRESENTATIVE IN NORWAY OR GERMANY IS POSSIBLE PROVIDED THAT THE GOVERNMENT CONCERNED APPROVES SUCH TRANSFER AND
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 121327

SUBSEQUENT GOCR DISPOSITION OF CARBINES. WE WOULD VIEW THIS

AS ESSENTIALLY A MATTER OF BUSINESS BETWEEN THE GOCR AND THE GON OR THE FRG WITH OUR ONLY INTEREST BEING TO AVOID ACTIONS THAT COULD JEOPARDIZE OUR RELATIONS WITH THE GOVERNMENT CONCERNED. IF GOCR ELECTS TO TAKE DELIVERY IN ONE OF THOSE TWO COUNTRIES AND INTENDS TO MAKE NECESSARY REPRESENTATIONS, WE WILL AWAIT OUTCOME OF THOSE REPRESENTATIONS BEFORE PROCEEDING. IF NORWAY, POINT OF TRANSFER WOULD BE DESIGNATED BY GON. IF GERMANY, IT WOULD BE U.S. MILITARY DEPOT AT

BREMERHAVEN.

3. ON RECONSIDERATION, A BETTER ALTERNATIVE THAN EUROPE-AN DELIVERY MIGHT BE FOR THE U.S. TO MOVE WEAPONS TO CONUS AND TO DELIVER THEM HERE TO GOCR REPRESENTATIVE FOR ONWARD SHIPPING TO COSTA RICA. IT WOULD BE NECESSARY, OF COURSE, TO OBTAIN MUNITIONS CONTROL LICENSE AND COMPLY WITH ANY OTHER REQUIREMENTS OF U.S. CUSTOMS; BUT WE SEE NO PROBLEM IN THAT AREA. MOVEMENT OF WEAPONS WITHIN U.S. WOULD ALSO BE SUBJECT TO VARIOUS STATE AND FEDERAL LAWS. MOREOVER, GOCR WOULD HAVE TO MAKE ITS OWN TRANSFER, WAREHOUSING, AND SHIPPING ARRANGEMENTS. IF RECRATING OF WEAPONS OR REMARKING OF CRATES IS CONTEMPLATED, THIS WOULD HAVE TO BE ACCOMPLISHED BY GOCR REPRESENTATIVE AFTER WEAPONS HAVE BEEN RELEASED BY USG AND MOVED OFF USG PREMISES. USG WILL NOT COLLABORATE IN ANY WAY WITH ANY GOCR EFFORT TO CONCEAL PURCHASE OR CLOAK SHIPMENT.

4. IF TIME IS IMPORTANT FACTOR, CARBINES COULD BE MOVED FROM NORWAY TO CONUS BY COMMERCIAL AIR. TOTAL WEIGHT APPROXIMATELY 80,000 POUNDS. IF AIR SHIPMENT NOT DESIRED, CARBINES COULD BE MOVED TO CONUS BY SURFACE WITH TRANSIT TIME OF 3-4 WEEKS.

5. IN ANY EVENT, IF GOCR WISHES TO ARRANGE DELIVERY OF CARBINES ANYWHERE EXCEPT COSTA RICA, DD-1513, WHICH NOW IN HANDS OF GOCR OFFICIALS IN SAN JOSE, WILL HAVE TO BE AMENDED. AMENDMENT WOULD INCLUDE CHANGING SPECIFIED PLACE OF DELIVERY AND ACCEPTANCE AND PRICE OF DELIVERED WEAPONS (WHICH PARTIALLY CALCULATED ON BASIS OF COST OF TRANSPORT). BELIEVE THE WHOLE PROCESS COULD BE HASTENED IF DD-1513

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 STATE 121327

WERE RETURNED TO COSTA RICA EMBASSY, WASHINGTON AND AMBASSADOR SILVA WERE AUTHORIZED TO SIGN AMENDED DD-1513 FOR GOCR AND ISSUE CHECK IN APPROPRIATE AMOUNT.

6. THE REMAINING FNS CASES PERTINENT TO THIS SALE WERE PASSED TO MR. NAVAS, COSTA RICAN EMBASSY HERE IN WASHINGTON ON MAY 19. KISSINGER

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